



# **PRESS RELEASE**

## **Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Cincinnati Field Office *Special Agent in Charge Kathy A. Enstrom***

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### **LOCAL WOMAN INDICTED IN FALSE INCOME TAX REFUND SCHEME**

DAYTON, OHIO -- A federal grand jury here has indicted Sharia Bailey, 33, of Dayton, Ohio charging her with five counts of filing false claims for income tax refunds with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Carter M. Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio and Troy N. Stemen, Acting Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, Cincinnati Field Office announced the indictment returned today.

According to the indictment, between January 2011 and February 2013 Bailey allegedly filed five false claims for income tax refunds in the amount of \$34,338, two of which were in Bailey's name and three of which were in the names of others.

Filing false claims for income tax refunds carries a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000.

"At the IRS, protecting taxpayer money is a matter we take extremely seriously. An integral part of the agency's mission involves detecting and catching fraudulent tax refund claims," stated Troy N. Stemen, Acting Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation, Cincinnati Field Office. "The object of these schemes is to defraud the government and the taxpaying public."

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Brent Tabacchi and was investigated by special agents of IRS-Criminal Investigation.

An indictment merely contains allegations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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